

Basic Detail Report



Viola

Date

1751

Primary Maker

Christoph Friedrich Hunger

Description

This viola was made by a follower of the Hoffmann family, court makers in Leipzig and friends of the Bach family. It is a large, exceptionally deep instrument and may have been an experimental model. Top: two-piece, quarter-cut spruce: medium grain Back: one-piece maple cut off-the-quarter: narrow, horizontal curl Ribs: quarter-cut maple: narrow curl; one-piece lower rib Head: maple: plain; pegbox with shoulders Neck: maple: narrow curl; grafted; later Arching: high Varnish: very dark brown Fingerboard: ebony; later Nut: ebony; later Tailpiece: ebony; later Tailgut: plain gut Pegs: boxwood with integral pins; later Saddle: ebony; later Endpin: ebony with mother-of-pearl eye and turned ring around head; later F-holes: curved wings Linings: maple; very small Corner blocks: spruce Top block: spruce; later Bottom block: spruce Bassbar: spruce; long; later Other: 19th century ebony chin rest held on by tailgut

Dimensions

Total viola length: 699 mm Back length: 440 mm (17-5/16") Upper bout width: 199 mm Center bout width: 134 mm Lower bout width: 251 mm Upper rib height: 48-53 mm Center rib height: 50-53 mm Lower rib height: 52-54 mm Stop length: 335 mm Vibrating string length: 397 mm Neck length (bottom of nut to ribs): 164 mm